



**Addressing Global Climate Change by Strengthening U.S. Energy Security
and Protecting our Economy**

Any action on Climate Change must achieve meaningful environmental benefits, and should rely on technological advances and consumer choices rather than mandates and bureaucracy.

A technology-based approach will reduce emissions, keep jobs in America, and strengthen America's energy security by encouraging clean, affordable and reliable supplies of American energy for consumers.

Climate change is a global problem and it requires a global solution. Therefore, any U.S. action must require comparable action by developing countries, such as China, whose carbon emissions have already exceeded those in the U.S. Without joint international action, jobs and emissions will simply shift overseas, to countries that require few, if any, environmental protections, harming the global environment as well as the U.S. economy.

Finally, the American public deserves transparency in the process. It is imperative that decisions with such far-reaching implications be debated and decided openly by our citizens' elected officials, instead of being made by unelected judges and bureaucrats. We must fully engage the American people and keep them informed about potential choices and the impacts that those choices will have on their daily lives. And we must put aside the rhetoric and hyperbole on both sides and have a serious debate on how best to address this issue for the benefit of all Americans.

Climate Change Principles

Republicans support action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that: 1) provides tangible environmental benefits to the American people; 2) advances technology and provides the opportunity to export; 3) protects U.S. jobs; 4) strengthens U.S. energy security; 5) requires global participation; and 6) builds on our current and ongoing work.

Provide Tangible Environmental Benefits:

- We support meaningful, practical emissions reductions that result in a cleaner, healthier environment, not those that merely shift emissions overseas to other countries;
- Thoughtful stewardship of our natural resources has long been part of our American heritage and it must remain that way to ensure future generations benefit from clean air, clean water and a healthy environment.

Advance and Invest in Technology:

- We support technologies that reduce emissions, increase America's energy security, and keep prices for consumers affordable;
- We support the advancement of alternative forms of energy such as clean coal technologies to increase the use of America's vast supply of coal, to reduce emissions, and to keep America's coal-dependent communities strong;
- We support expansion of emissions-free nuclear power, including policies that encourage construction of new nuclear power plants and a timely solution to long term storage of spent nuclear fuel;
- We support increases in energy efficiency by removing bureaucratic barriers that prevent businesses from using innovative technologies that produce cleaner energy.

Protect Jobs Here in the United States:

- We believe Americans should know the costs they will bear to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the environmental benefits those reductions will provide;
- Our actions need to keep and increase jobs in the United States;
- We will promote economic growth and expansion;
- We should take actions that reduce America's trade deficit with China, India, Mexico, and other countries.

Strengthen U.S. Energy Security:

- We need to reduce America's dependence on energy from unfriendly and unstable foreign governments;
- We support a diverse U.S. energy portfolio.

Require Global Participation and Promote International Cooperation:

- We favor policies that create a level playing field for American workers in the global marketplace. China, India and similar countries must agree to meaningful emissions reductions before Congress imposes carbon mandates on American workers;
- It is crucial that we help U.S. businesses export clean energy technologies to developing countries.

Build on Our Current and Ongoing Work:

- Recognize and expand our Nation's commitment to research into alternative forms of energy and increased efficiencies;
- Ensure that the federal government continues to address climate change in the most efficient and effective way possible.